

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A video encoder and/or decoder, comprising:

an encoding/decoding means for encoding video data into data complying with a predetermined encoding standard, decoding data complying with the predetermined standard into video data or encoding and encoding data;

a video input/output means for making input processing video data supplied from outside, output processing of the input-processed video data delivered from the encoding/decoding means and delivering the output-processed video data to outside or making data input and output processing;

a control means for supplying a start signal indicative of encoding or decoding start timing to the encoding/decoding means while supplying setting information for input/output processing each image included in the video data to the video input/output means; and

a delaying means supplied with an external video sync signal synchronous with each image included in the video data supplied to or delivered from the video input/output means and for delaying the input video sync signal a predetermined time;

wherein the control means ~~generating~~generates the setting information in a timing that is based on the delayed video sync signal delivered from the delaying means and supplying it to the video input/output means;

a first timing generating means supplied with a video sync clock synchronous with the video data supplied to or delivered from the video input/output means to generate a first timing signal having a first duration;

a second timing generating means supplied with a system clock not synchronous with the video data to generate a second timing signal having a second duration on the basis of the system clock; and

a selecting means supplied with the first timing signal, second timing signal and the delayed video sync signal delivered from the delaying means to select any one of these signals and supply it to the control means;

wherein the control means generates the start signal on the basis of a signal output from the selecting means and supplying it to the encoding/decoding means.

2. (original) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the control means generates the start signal in a timing that is based on the delayed video sync signal delivered from the delaying means and supplying it to the encoding/decoding means.

3. (original) The apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the control means is supplied with a reference signal having a predetermined duration from outside, and generates the start signal in a time that is based on the reference signal and supplies it to the encoding/decoding means.

4 (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A method of controlling the operation timing of a video encoder and decoder including:

an encoding/decoding module for encoding video data into data complying with a predetermined encoding standard, decoding data complying with the predetermined standard into video data or encoding and decoding data;

a video input/output module for making input processing video data supplied from outside, output processing of the input-processed video data delivered from the encoding/decoding means and delivering the output-processed video data to outside or making input/output processing;

the method comprising the steps of:

delaying a video sync signal synchronous with each image included in the video data supplied to or delivered from the video input/output module a predetermined time; and

generating setting information for the input/output processing of each image included in the video data in a timing that is based on the delayed video sync signal and supplying it to the video input/output module;

generating a first timing signal having a first duration on the basis of a video sync signal synchronous with the video data supplied to or delivered from the video input/output module;

generating a second timing signal having a second duration on the basis of a system clock not synchronous with the video data; and

selecting any one of the first timing signal, second timing signal and the delayed video sync signal, generating a start signal indicative of encoding or decoding start timing on the basis of the selected signal and supplying it to the encoding/decoding module.

6. (original) The method as set forth in claim 5, wherein a start signal indicative of encoding or decoding start timing is generated in a timing that and supplied to the encoding/decoding module.

7. (original) The method as set forth in claim 5, wherein a reference signal having a predetermined duration is supplied from outside, and a start signal indicative of encoding or decoding start timing is generated based on the reference signal and supplied to the encoding/decoding module.

8. (canceled)